

'THIS IS A VERY SAD DAY'

HRM COUNCIL PUTS PROPOSED STADIUM PROJECT ON THE SHELF
AND PULLS CITY OUT OF RUNNING TO HOST FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

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HALIFAX

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Wednesday, March 28, 2012



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No hikes in budget

Council. Proposal sees taxes and transit fares holding steady

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Halifax regional council had its first look at the proposed 2012-13 operating budget on Tuesday.

Richard Butts, HRM's chief administrative officer, said the average single-family home won't see a tax increase, nor will the average commercial rate go up. Metro Transit fares also won't increase.

In total, the budget would decrease revenues by \$700,000. Butts said that money would be recouped via realignment, efficiencies and the elimination of 50 city positions.

Mayor Peter Kelly said he was pleased with Butts' first full budget.

"Certainly the targets have been hit. We certainly challenged him to bring down costs, to reduce

Council talks

- Halifax regional council will look over the new budget and return to begin discussions on Monday.

staff and to reduce the tax rate. All those have been achieved in this budget," he said.

"It's certainly a well-thought-out budget and one that will, I think, get the support of all of council."

The budget would give the city a 311 call centre to replace the 490-4000 number for all inquiries from the public.

HRM would also get its long-awaited airport bus, with a Metro X service from Halifax Stanfield International Airport to downtown Halifax.

The capital budget would put money into expanding the Bedford/Hammonds Plains Community Centre and Phase 2 for the Oval. It would also set aside money to buy replacement buses in the coming decade.

CLEAN SWEEP

Halifax Moosehead players Konrad Abeltshauser and Brent Andrews celebrate Andrews' overtime winner against the Wildcats at the Moncton Coliseum on Tuesday night. The Moose won 5-4 and swept their first-round playoff series 4-0. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

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NEWS

On the mobile

Age may creep up on man, but his best friend gets there at warp speed. The American Veterinary Medical Association holds that cats and small dogs are geriatric at seven — and large dogs at six. Scan for the story.



On the web

These beetles have some bling

Live beetles covered in jewelry are all the rage in Mexico and are part of a centuries-old tradition. But as the live jewelry gains popularity, not all fashionistas and environmentalists are on the same page. Watch at metronews.ca/video

Bylaws

Patio season coming early

Haligonians will be able to take to the streets a few weeks earlier after Halifax regional council moved "Patio Day" to April 1.

Coun. Dawn Sloane made the request on behalf of bar and restaurant owners in her downtown district.

"Basically, there are lots of events that will be going on in the city due to the 100th anniversary of the Titanic," Sloane said.

Council agreed to let street patios be built earlier this year, but it will move back to April 21 next year.

"Hopefully some day they won't have to remove their patios, but can build them permanently," Sloane added.

JON TATTIE/FOR METRO



Coun. Dawn Sloane
RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Redevelopment

Brownfield plan on track

Halifax regional council voted to move forward with a plan promoting the re-development of brownfield sites in the city on Tuesday.

A staff report said providing tax incentives and offering planning flexibility for the sites, which include

many former gas stations, would improve urban density and increase the city's tax base.

Owners of former gas stations are responsible for environmental remediation before selling, as well as any problems in the future.

The report will now go to committee and council will come to a final decision down the road.

JON TATTIE/FOR METRO

Public hearing still a go for Skye Halifax project

Development. HRM staff says it will be a few months before it takes place



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Coun. Bob Harvey's attempt to take down Skye Halifax didn't fly with regional council on Tuesday.

"It's an assault on the downtown Halifax plan, HRMbyDesign, and it is furthermore disrespectful to the three-year public process that resulted in HRMbyDesign," Harvey said, asking council to rescind its earlier decision to move forward to a public hearing on the development.

Skye Halifax is the 48-story building planned for 1591 Granville St. and it's over double the height requirements for the area. It's being considered under an exception rule — policy 89 — which allows for taller buildings if it's for the public good.

It is a project developed by United Gulf Developments Ltd., who previously went to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board and Supreme

Reassurance

Coun. Steve Streach and Coun. Jim Smith urged their colleagues not to be scared because all council is doing at this point is moving forward with the public hearing.

Court in 2007 to successfully overturn appeals by heritage groups on the "twisted sisters" development.

Harvey said Skye would dominate the downtown and the Citadel. His motion failed, but he did have support.

Coun. Sue Uteck and Coun. Dawn Sloane said they've received calls and emails from developers saying if Skye goes forward, they want added height on their buildings.

Sloane quoted a statement she received from developer Louis Reznick, who said if Skye goes ahead, he wants another 20 floors on the Roy Building on Barrington Street.

Coun. Lorelei Nicoll said council shouldn't be voting for Skye Halifax to make up for what happened with the twisted sisters.

"It's not about (twisted sisters) and making it right today," she said.



A graphic image of the proposed Skye Towers. CONTRIBUTED

Quotable



"How many concessions have to be made to get something built on this site?"

Coun. Lorelei Nicoll



"Councilors are making up their minds before they've heard from the public."

Coun. Russell Walker



"It is for the public good — people are going to live there."

Coun. Gloria McCluskey

HRM sticking with e-voting firm for election



A worker checks the online computer voting station during the NDP leadership convention in Toronto on Saturday. DOUG IVES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mayor Peter Kelly says HRM plans to stick with the e-voting firm that worked the troubled federal NDP convention for its municipal elections in the fall.

ScytI faced questions after e-voters endured lengthy delays in last weekend's NDP convention in Toronto.

That prompted Kelly to review having ScytI handle HRM's elections. Kelly met with senior company officials on Tuesday and said he was confident they could handle HRM's voting day.

"The system at no time was breached," Kelly said. "Clearly they're taking it very

Quotable

"We will continue to monitor and assess issues as they come forward."

Mayor Peter Kelly

seriously and they'll do what they need to do to mitigate such occurrences."

ScytI sent a media release saying the delays were caused by a distributed denial-of-service attack and not flaws in their system.

"We deeply regret the in-

convenience to NDP voters caused by this malicious, massive, orchestrated attempt to thwart democracy," said Susan Crutchlow, general manager of ScytI Canada. "We are proud that our robust system ... repelled this attack, did not crash, and completed its mission."

Kelly said the votes had not been tampered with in the NDP contest.

He noted ScytI, a Spanish company, will handle major elections in France and Mexico in the coming months, ones the municipality will watch closely.

JON TATTIE/FOR METRO

Bye-bye World Cup, bye-bye stadium — for now, anyway

Stadium stalled indefinitely. FIFA was too soon for us; we need years to plan: Coun. Blumenthal



JENNIFER TAPLIN
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It didn't go quietly — but HRM's proposed stadium did go.

After more than an hour of discussion, Halifax regional council voted to shelve the project into a future capital plan and to look at purchasing Shannon Park lands for it.

It also means Halifax pulled

out of the running Tuesday to host a portion of the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup of Soccer.

"This is a very sad day for a councillor who was looking forward to hosting FIFA," said Coun. Darren Fisher, who made the motion not to proceed.

"The stadium project is not dead, but we lose a huge catalyst and hosting opportunity."

Several councillors, including Fisher, expressed frustration with the province and its lack of support for the stadium.

The New Democrats said a business case was not prepared in a manner to support a provincial investment, but Fisher countered that a business case plus every other document they could want was sent to them.

He told reporters that if the



Darren Fisher. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

province had gotten on board, the federal government and corporate sponsors would have as well.

"I think the province of Nova Scotia let us down and I'm yet to know why," Coun. Jim Smith agreed.

Coun. Debbie Hum said they couldn't get funding partners because a 10,000-permanent-seat stadium wasn't big

enough.

"I'm disappointed, but as a taxpayer I think this is not the right time," Coun. Dawn Sloane said.

Some councillors were concerned by the added motion to consider Shannon Park for a sports complex — including a stadium — in the future. It was turned down as a possible site for the ditched Commonwealth Games bid because of costs, traffic and other issues. But on Tuesday, council voted 17-6 to explore the Shannon Park site.

Going against the flow, Coun. Peter Lund said he was neither disappointed nor surprised the city couldn't attract funding partners because he didn't think there was ever a business case for a stadium.

Women's World Cup

A kick in the head for city's FIFA aspirations

The Canadian Soccer Association, the governing body of the sport, released a statement on Tuesday saying it was disappointed that council nixed Halifax's hosting bid for the Women's World Cup.

"It is unfortunate that Halifax will not be in a position to host the FIFA

Women's World Cup Canada 2015," the CSA said.

"We certainly hope that in the future the City of Halifax will construct a major facility suitable for the sport of soccer where the Canadian Soccer Association will be able to host major international friendly matches."

The remaining cities in the running for hosting privileges coast-to-coast are Moncton, Edmonton, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Montreal.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO



Halifax fans show their support for an East Coast CFL franchise as the Calgary Stampeders and Hamilton Tiger-Cats compete in Moncton in September. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Halifax decision 'a disappointment for everybody'



Spectators take in the 2010 IAAF world junior track-and-field championships at Moncton's stadium. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anyone who thinks the City of Moncton was rejoicing over the news Tuesday that HRM is not moving forward with construction of its own outdoor stadium would be off base.

In fact, Moncton's manager of venues, Shane Porter, said Halifax not having its own outdoor facility is bad for business for everyone.

"Unfortunately, it hurts the region when things like this occur. The possibility of

having another stadium in Atlantic Canada does nothing but help everyone," Porter said, after being notified of Halifax regional council's decision to not build a stadium and bid for the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup.

"That's a disappointment for everybody, not just the city of Halifax."

Porter said with the size of Atlantic Canada and its population base, anytime a city in the region can attract a major event like the

Build and they will come?

21K

With the addition of temporary seating, sellout crowds of more than 21,000 attended both CFL exhibition games in Moncton.

FIFA Women's World Cup — which Moncton is also vying for — it helps in the marketing and bidding for future events.

"A win for Halifax or a win for Moncton on something like this is a win for the region — that's the way we look at it," Porter said.

Since opening in the summer of 2010, Moncton's 8,500-seat stadium on the campus of the University of Moncton has hosted two Canadian Football League exhibition games, an international track event and the Uteck Bowl CIS football semifinal.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

Moncton may attract another member of rock royalty

Springsteen. Atlantic Canada Rocks reports concert would headline weekend music festival to take place in late August

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The Boss looks set to be rocking it out in Moncton this summer.

According to the music website Atlantic Canada Rocks, Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band have been signed to headline the 2012 Magnetic Hill Festival on Aug. 26.

Atlantic Canada Rock reports the official announcement should be coming down soon from the City of Moncton.

"Springsteen would be another great concert for the Maritimes," said J.C. Douglas, program director at the classic-rock station Q104, about the rumoured show. "Slowly but surely all of rock's royalties are coming, although I'd like to see a few more come to Halifax."

If a go, it would be another major score for Moncton. Springsteen could be as large as last year's U2 concert at Magnetic Hill, which drew a

crowd of about 75,000.

Other top acts to hit Moncton in recent years include AC/DC and The Rolling Stones.

"Springsteen fans are incredibly loyal," said Douglas. "People will come from hours and miles around to see him."

The 62-year-old rocker is lined up to tour select Canadian cities in late August for his latest release, *Wrecking Ball* — Springsteen's first record following the death of longtime E Street saxophonist Clarence Clemons.

"It's totally worth going where you need to go and spending what you need to spend," said Douglas.

"No one plays a show like the Boss."

'Rumour'

No promoter confirmation

Officials with the City of Moncton wouldn't confirm on Tuesday if the Bruce Springsteen show is a go.

"Until there is an official announcement from a promoter, it's all rumour," said Shane Porter, manager of venues for Moncton.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO



Bruce Springsteen performing at TD Garden in Boston on Monday. ELISE AMENDOLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stricken yacht investigated for smuggling

A large search-and-rescue operation off the coast of Nova Scotia for three people missing from a stricken yacht took a twist Tuesday when the federal government announced it's investigating whether the boat was involved in human smuggling.

One man who was pulled from the Atlantic Ocean early Tuesday morning by search-and-rescue technicians was later pronounced dead, while

five others were rescued. A search for three other people who were on board the SV *Tabasco 2* had failed to find them by early Tuesday evening.

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews says a number of people who were rescued from the yacht, which experienced mechanical problems about 150 kilometres south of Cape Sable Island, have claimed refugee status and the incident is being treated as a suspected

case of human smuggling.

In a statement, Toews does not say how many of the five people who were rescued have claimed refugee status, but he used the incident to push for passage of a new immigration law.

"This tragedy highlights the need for speedy passage of the Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act," he said. "There is an enormous and unnecessary risk involved with

the act of human smuggling. Our government's message is clear to those contemplating a human smuggling operation — don't do it."

The boat issued a distress call after running into trouble at about 10:30 p.m. Monday. The crew of a Cormorant helicopter plucked three men from the water.

Lt.-Col. Guy Leblanc, co-pilot of the Cormorant helicopter, said a technician was lowered

Distress call

- **Eastern Europe.** Leblanc said the three men he took on board appeared to be in their 40s and were from Russia, Ukraine and Georgia.

- **Unknowns.** Military officials said they do not know where the vessel was from, where it was going or what it was doing at sea.

down to the small sailboat as 10-metre swells and winds gusting up to 90 kilometres an hour

whipped up the waters around them sometime after they arrived at 3 a.m. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Budget talk



Graham Steele RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Service fees won't increase: Finance minister

Nova Scotia's user fees won't increase in this year's budget, according to the province's finance minister.

There are about 1,400 fees charged by various governmental departments, including vehicle registration, licence renewal and fishing permits. Some fees rose in the 2011 budget,

but won't this year, Graham Steele said in a statement Tuesday.

"The upcoming budget will have a number of measures that make life a little better for families, including keeping fees at their current level," said Steele.

"As a government, we are working hard to balance cost recovery with affordability and accessibility."

Steele will table his budget April 3.

METRO

Environment

Northumberland wind farm OK'd

The province says a controversial wind farm overlooking the Northumberland Strait can move ahead. The government gave North Cumberland Wind Power's environmental assessment approval Tuesday, saying the terms and conditions in place protect the environment and public health.

AMHERST DAILY NEWS

Rocky shores

Derelict ship to be removed from Scatarie Island

The province is now expecting a Cape Breton visit in April from a salvage company that is to remove the derelict ship *MV Miner* from the rocky shore of Scatarie Island.

Dan Davis, a spokesman for the Natural Resources Department, said this week he doesn't have a

specific date for a visit by Bennington Group of New York.

"We'll hopefully have some more information soon," he said.

Davis said that before the ship is removed, the province has to ensure every precaution will be taken both for the fishery and the designated wilderness area at Scatarie Island.

The salvage company was expected last month but the visit fell through. **CAPE BRETON POST**



Halifax police look over a car that was struck by several bullets in a drive-by shooting in Dartmouth on Monday.
PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

Halifax police concerned over recent gunfire

Public safety. Three shootings in four days between Friday and Monday with no injuries reported

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Halifax police say they are taking a recent rash of shootings in HRM very seriously.

A drive-by shooting in Dartmouth on Monday afternoon marked the third incident of gunfire since Friday.

"Unfortunately groups of people have decided to use guns," said Halifax Regional Police spokesman Const. Brian Palmetter. "They have no regard for anyone."

Halifax police are investigating a shooting on Downey

One person released

- A 22-year-old man taken into custody for questioning relating to Monday's drive-by shooting has been released without charges.

Road in North Preston on Friday night. No one was injured and there have been no arrests.

A second shooting incident occurred early Saturday morning. Police were called to Grafton and Carmicheal streets in downtown Halifax after several shots were fired.

A 24-year-old man is facing a charge of attempted murder and weapons-related offences in relation to the incident. Another man, 28, has also been charged.

The most recent shooting occurred Monday on Symonds

Street in Dartmouth. Close to half a dozen shots were fired during a drive-by shooting just after 12:30 p.m.

"We are taking these investigations very seriously," Palmetter said. "You can see that through the charges that were laid (for the Saturday shooting)."

There were no reports of injuries in Monday's drive-by, with Palmetter adding the incident isn't random.

"We believe the incident had to do with an ongoing dispute with the parties involved," he said.

Palmetter is also encouraging anyone with any information to contact them in relation to the Monday shooting.

"Anytime we have an incident like this it causes concern for the safety of the public," he said.

Public consultation

Input sought for bike corridor

Two public-consultation sessions are scheduled to present options for a north-south bicycle corridor on the peninsula of HRM.

The first session will be held on Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Bloomfield Centre on 2786 Agricola St. The second session is scheduled for next Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Maritime Hall at the Halifax Forum.

Participants are invited to provide feedback that will be used to inform a final recommendation to Halifax regional council.

Visit halifax.ca/cycling for full details. **METRO**

Alleged abuse. Police make appeal for information

Police are encouraging anyone with direct knowledge of alleged criminal acts at the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children to contact them.

The RCMP and Halifax police say several former residents have already come forward through media reports in the past few months with allegations of physical and sexual abuse many years ago.

Police say a significant amount of time has passed and people may feel the time is right to speak with

Home for Colored Children

- The Mounties say they will be reviewing any information that may have been provided in the past to ensure they have a complete file on all allegations.

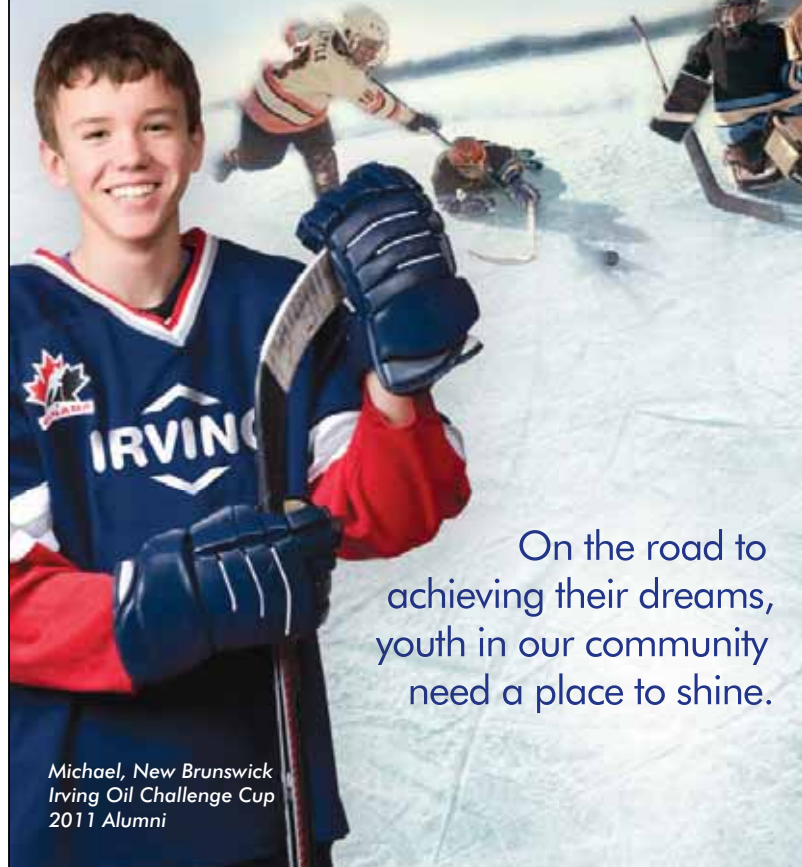
investigators.

Police want anyone with information to contact the RCMP-Halifax Police Integrated Sexual Assault Investigative Team.

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RCMP. Former officers launch class-action suit

KATE WEBB
For Metro in Vancouver

A former Nanaimo police constable filed a class-action lawsuit against the RCMP Tuesday alleging widespread systemic discrimination in the force against female officers, civilian members and civil-service employees.

More than 150 RCMP officers have signed on since former RCMP Cpl. Catherine Galliford came forward with explosive allegations of harassment on the job last November, although Galliford is not participating in the class-action suit.

The suit, filed by former Const. Janet Merlo, claims she suffered depression and post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of 20 years of discrimination and harassment at the Nanaimo RCMP detachment.

"It's too late for me," said Merlo in a statement released by her lawyers, "but I hope that this lawsuit will bring about some positive change for women who are still with the RCMP and women who join in the future."

The notice of claim alleges male members at Merlo's detachment planted



Former RCMP Const. Janet Merlo shakes an officer's hand in 1991.
KLEIN LYONS/CONTRIBUTED

sex toys around the office, yelled at her when she got pregnant with her first child and told her to keep her legs closed, and frequently made overt sexual comments and advances toward her.

Thunder Bay lawyer Alexander Zaitzeff is one of nine legal experts working on the case.

Zaitzeff said the central issue in the case "is the paramilitary culture within the RCMP, in which there is an abuse of authority that occurs."

Scandal. Cyber-attack on NDP vote the work of organized professionals: Tech company

Hackers. Scytl Canada says hundreds of thousands of false vote requests sent

More than 10,000 "malevolent" Internet addresses were used to jam the NDP leadership convention's online voting system, according to the tech company that ran the vote.

The denial-of-service attack delayed voting for several hours and pushed the crowning of new NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair late into Saturday evening.

Some observers of the weekend convention immediately claimed the technical delays as evidence that New Democrats are not ready to govern.

But a statement Tuesday from Scytl Canada, which ran the online vote, described Saturday's cyber-attack as an organized, professional and illegal effort.

"We deeply regret the inconvenience to NDP voters caused by this malicious, massive, orchestrated attack to thwart democracy,"



An NDP delegate wears a Brian Topp hat as she votes at a polling station in the fourth round of voting during the NDP leadership convention in Toronto on March 24. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Susan Crutchlow, the general manager of Scytl Canada, said in a release.

"We are proud, however, that our robust system, which is used by many governments around the world, repelled this attack, did not crash, and completed its mission of giving all NDP members who wished to vote the opportunity to do so securely."

The Spanish-based company also thanked the party

for its patience with the long delays caused by the attack.

Scytl said "many hundreds of thousands" of false voting requests were sent to the system.

"This effectively 'jammed up the pipe' into the voting system, delaying voter access," said the company statement.

The so-called "botnet" used computers around the world, but mainly in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Breast cancer

Mammogram errors

A study found 109 breast-cancer cases that had not been previously diagnosed in Quebec. The provincial College of Physicians conducted the search after learning there may be errors in previous mammograms.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Private vs. public

Toews speaks on online attacks

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews appeared before a committee Tuesday convened to examine whether his privilege as an MP was breached when online videos disclosed details of his personal life.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec

Students protest

Students blocked access to government buildings in several Quebec cities on Tuesday, leading to police pepper-spray at least one of the crowds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Talks. Annan makes progress toward ceasefire in Syria

Diplomacy. Former UN head gets crucial support for plan from Russia and China

UN envoy Kofi Annan said Tuesday he has received the backing of both Syria and China for his plan for a negotiated end to the bloody Syrian conflict.

Annan believes Syria's acceptance of the peace plan is an important first step that now needs to be immediately implemented, his spokesman said.

A Paris-based member of the opposition Syrian National Council said it welcomes the Syrian government's decision.

"We hope that we can move toward a peace process," Bassma Kodmani said by telephone.

Annan, who is also an envoy for the Arab League, told reporters after meeting with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao in Beijing on Tuesday that he had received a "positive" re-



Kofi Annan
LINTAO ZHANG/POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sponse from Syria as well as support from China.

He said he received a similar commitment from Russia over the weekend.

"We've had very good discussions about the situation in Syria. And they have offered me their full support," Annan said after the meeting with Wen.

Wen said work on a solution to the crisis is at a "critical juncture," adding that China backed Annan's mediation efforts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peace plan

The six points of UN envoy Kofi Annan's peace plan for Syria, which have been accepted by the Syrian government.

- **More talks.** Syria commits to work with Annan "in an inclusive Syrian-led political process to address the legitimate aspirations and concerns of the Syrian people."
- **Ceasefire.** Syria commits to stop fighting and immediately stop troop movements and use of heavy weapons in populated areas. Annan will seek similar commitments from the opposition.
- **Daily pause.** Syria implements a daily two-hour "humanitarian pause" to deliver aid and evacuate the injured.
- **Release prisoners.** Syria commits to intensify "the pace and scale of release of arbitrarily detained persons."
- **Allow journalists.** Syria commits to ensure freedom of movement throughout the country for journalists.
- **Allow demonstrations.** Syria commits to "respect freedom of association and the right to demonstrate peacefully as legally guaranteed."



Protesters own streets in Northern Syria

In this citizen-journalism image taken on Monday, anti-regime protesters march in Binish town in Idlib province, northern Syria. EDLIB NEWS NETWORK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reaction

U.S. skeptical about Syria peace plan

The Obama administration seemed wary Tuesday that President Bashar Assad's regime may use its apparent willingness to compromise as cover to press on with a year-long political crackdown.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton cautiously welcomed the Syrian government's endorsement of the six-point plan that calls for an immediate ceasefire with rebels. She said it was an important step toward peace but stressed that Assad now has to deliver.

"Given Assad's history of over-promising and under-delivering, that commitment must now be matched by im-

mediate action," Clinton told reporters in Washington. "We will judge Assad's sincerity and seriousness by what he does, not by what he says. If he is ready to bring this dark chapter in Syria's history to a close, he could prove it by immediately ordering regime forces to stop firing and begin withdrawing from populated areas."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police fear French gunman may have had help

A video apparently showing a Muslim gunman's attacks on soldiers and a Jewish school was sent to the Al-Jazeera news network — but not by him, French police said Tuesday, raising the spectre of a possible accomplice.

Al-Jazeera on Tuesday decided not to air a video that seems to have been filmed from the killer's point of view and includes the cries of his victims.

The decision came after President Nicolas Sarkozy asked the network not to broadcast it.

While French politicians describe gunman Mohamed Merah as a "lone wolf" terrorist, his brother is behind bars on suspicion of helping in the attacks and police are

continuing to look for potential accomplices.

A French official close to the investigation said the video was not sent by Merah, a 23-year-old Frenchman who was killed in a shoot-out Thursday after a 32-hour standoff with police at his apartment building in Toulouse.

Another official said the envelope sent to Al-Jazeera contained a Wednesday postmark from a large postal processing centre for the area around Toulouse, meaning it was unclear exactly where it was mailed from. He could not say anything about who may have sent the video.

The first official said a technical analysis had concluded that it was not sent

Video

- Zied Tarrouche, Al-Jazeera's Paris bureau chief, said the video had clearly been edited, with religious songs and recitations of Quranic verses laid over the footage.
- The footage appeared to have been taken from the point of view of the killer, according to Tarrouche.

by Merah but did not indicate whether that analysis included fingerprints, DNA, surveillance or other data.

The two officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the case.

Merah was in his apartment, surrounded by police, from well before dawn Wednesday until he was killed Thursday morning. Police did not elaborate on why they think he did not put the package into the mail before then.

Prosecutors have said that Merah filmed all of his attacks, which began March 11 with the murder of a French soldier. Before the spree ended, two more soldiers and three Jewish children and a rabbi were killed, while another student and another paratrooper were wounded.

Police said Merah claimed the attacks and had told them he had links to al-Qaida, travelled to Afghanistan and received weapons training in the militant-riddled Pakistani



French President Nicolas Sarkozy speaks to officials who investigated the murder case and siege of Mohamed Merah's house. KENZO TRIBOUILLARD, POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tribal region of Waziristan.

French intelligence officials say they have found no sign of a link between Merah and al-Qaida or other

international terrorist networks. Still, investigators say they are open to the possibility of accomplices.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

100TH ANNIVERSARY TITANIC COLLECTION

Canada Post pays tribute to the people of Halifax, who rose up and took on the call of duty to help with the response and recovery efforts. These special edition Titanic stamps and collectibles commemorate this important moment in Canadian history.



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Congressional forum

Trayvon Martin's parents on Capitol Hill as outrage persists over killing

The parents of Trayvon Martin, the 17-year-old gunned down by a neighbourhood-watch volunteer who believed he looked suspicious, are on Capitol Hill on Tuesday to attend a congressional forum looking into racial profiling and hate crimes.

Their visit to the U.S. capital comes as the nationwide uproar over their unarmed son's death enters a sadly typical phase in many high-profile, emotionally charged American crime cases: blaming the victim.

Tracy Martin and Sybrina Fulton believe their son, wearing a hoodie and walking in a gated Florida community on a rainy February night, aroused George Zimmerman's suspicions because of his race.

Zimmerman, a white Hispanic, says he acted in self-defence. He claims the youth beat him prior to the shooting after he followed Martin in his SUV despite a 9-11 dispatcher telling him not to do so.



Trayvon Martin's parents, father, Tracy Martin, and Sybrina Fulton.
JACQUELYN MARTIN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Martin and Fulton have accused the man's lawyers and local police of a smear campaign in recent days as investigators face an ever-growing barrage of criticism for failing to make an arrest in the Feb. 26 shooting.

"They've killed my son, and now they're trying to kill his reputation," Fulton said this week.

Democrats organized Tuesday's Capitol Hill event. It was uncertain whether any Republican lawmakers would be in attendance.

The congressional forum is not only focusing on racial profiling and hate crimes, but also on Florida's so-called Stand Your Ground law, which essentially allows people to use deadly force if they feel threatened.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. justices sound alarm bells over health-care reform

Obamacare in peril. Supreme Court conservatives question constitutionality of democrats' mandatory coverage proposal

The U.S. Supreme Court's more conservative justices sharply questioned a core provision of President Barack Obama's historic health-care reforms Tuesday, raising doubts about the fate of the requirement that all Americans must buy insurance coverage or face a penalty.

The court's ruling on the constitutionality of the law — expected in June, during the heat of the presidential re-election campaign — will affect the lives of nearly every American and stands to deepen already wide ideological divisions.



Amy Brighton from Medina, Ohio, rallies in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday. CHARLES DHARAPAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justices pressed the government's lawyer about the right of Congress to force Americans to buy a product.

"If the government can do that, what else can it" do? asked Justice Antonin Scalia, referring to the individual-mandate portion of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care

Act.

The Democrat-appointed liberal minority of four justices was expected to vote to uphold the Obama plan. But a ruling in favour of the law would require at least one of the five conservative, Republican-appointed judges to break ranks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cold War time warp

Russian president rebukes Romney

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Tuesday sharply suggested that Mitt Romney use his head and remember what year he's living in after the Republican presidential contender said Moscow was America's "No. 1 geopolitical foe."

Romney described Russia in those terms while criticizing President Barack Obama for his caught-on-tape remarks to Medvedev that he would have more room to negotiate on missile defence if he is re-elected in November.

During a briefing Tuesday in Seoul, where he and Obama were attending a nuclear security summit, the Russian leader said Romney's remarks "smacked of Hollywood" and sounded as if they came from the Cold War era.

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LOCKHEED MARTIN

Summit aims to secure all nuclear material by 2014

Security risk. Some countries have struggled to secure their stocks or have ties to militant groups

Material that can be used to make nuclear bombs is stored in scores of buildings spread across dozens of countries.

Nearly 60 world leaders who gathered Tuesday in Seoul for a nuclear security summit agreed to work on securing and accounting for all nuclear material by 2014.

But widespread fear lingers about the safety of nuclear material in countries including former Soviet states, Pakistan, North Korea, Iran and India.

While the threat of nuclear terrorism is considered lower now than a decade ago, especially after the death of Osama



South Korean President Lee Myungbak THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

bin Laden, the nightmare scenario of a terrorist exploding a nuclear bomb in a major city isn't necessarily the far-fetched stuff of movies.

"It would not take much, just a handful or so of these materials, to kill hundreds of thousands of innocent people

and that's not an exaggeration — that's the reality that we face," President Barack Obama told world leaders at the meeting.

Building a nuclear weapon isn't easy, but a bomb similar to the one that obliterated Hiroshima is "very plausibly within the capabilities of a sophisticated terrorist group," according to Matthew Bunn, an associate professor at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

The Nuclear Threat Initiative, a Washington-based non-proliferation group that tracks the security of world nuclear stockpiles, said in a January report that 32 countries have weapons-usable nuclear materials.

Some countries, such as the United States, maintain strict controls already. However others, including Russia and other former Soviet republics, have struggled to secure their stocks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nuclear bomb

Terrorist detonation not 'end of the world'

Hollywood has destroyed Washington — or New York or L.A. — many times with nuclear bombs detonated by terrorists. It turns out to be harder in real life.

A U.S. government study analyzed the likely effects from terrorists setting off a 10-kiloton nuclear device a few blocks north of the White House.

It predicted terrible devastation for roughly one kilometre in every direction, with buildings reduced to rubble the way that Second World War bombing raids destroyed parts of Berlin.

But outside that blast zone, the study concluded, even such a nuclear explosion would be pretty survivable.

"It's not the end of the world," said Randy Larsen, a retired Air Force colonel and founding director of the Institute for Homeland Security. "It's not a Cold War scenario."

The government study predicted 323,000 injuries, with more than 45,000 dead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Surgery. Man gets new face in most extensive transplant on record

A 37-year-old U.S. man injured in a 1997 gun accident has been given a new face, teeth, tongue and jaw in what doctors say is the most extensive face transplant ever performed.

University of Maryland Medical Center officials announced Tuesday that Richard Norris is recovering well after last week's surgery, beginning to feel his face and already brushing his teeth and shaving. He's also regained his sense of smell, which he had lost after the accident.

Norris has spent the past 15 years living as a recluse, and

the transplant will give him his life back, said lead surgeon Dr. Eduardo Rodriguez.

"Before, people used to stare at Richard because he wore a mask and they wanted to see the deformity," Rodriguez said. "Now, they have another reason to stare at him, and it's really amazing."

The 36-hour operation was the most extensive because it included transplantation of the teeth, tongue, upper and lower jaw and all facial tissue from the scalp to the base of the neck, Rodriguez said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



University of Maryland Medical Center doctors discuss the most extensive full face transplant completed to date, performed on Richard Lee Norris, pictured at right, during a news conference Tuesday. GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Facebook suicide shocks the world

Gruesome chat. No one alerts police; some beg woman to stop

A woman in Taiwan killed herself by inhaling poisonous fumes while chatting with friends on Facebook, and none of them alerted authorities, police said Tuesday.

Claire Lin killed herself

on her 31st birthday, March 18, and family members who reported her suicide were unaware of the Facebook conversations that accompanied it, Taipei police officer Hsieh Ku-ming said.

Lin's last Facebook entries show her chatting with nine friends, alerting them to her gradual asphyxiation. One picture uploaded from her mobile phone depicts a charcoal barbecue burning next

to two stuffed animals. Another shows the room filled with fumes.

One friend identified as Chung Hsin told Lin, "Be calm, open the window, put out the charcoal fire, please, I beg you."

Lin replied: "The fumes are suffocating. They fill my eyes with tears. Don't write me anymore."

A few of the Facebook friends chatting with her

tried to stop her and track her down on their own, but none called police. Chung did not respond to attempts to reach him for comment.

Lin's last words, in Chinese, were: "Too late. My room is filled with fumes. I just posted another picture. Even while I'm dying, I still want FB (Facebook). Must be FB poison. Haha."

Lin's Facebook postings indicated she was unhappy

because her boyfriend was ignoring her, and had failed to return home to be with her on her birthday. Her boyfriend found her body the next morning and alerted her family, Hsieh said.

Hsieh said he regretted that none of her friends called police during the 67-minute episode, but he added it may have been difficult for them to know her whereabouts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Social isolation

Chai Ben-rei, of Taiwan's Feng Chia University, said the incident reflects social isolation in the Internet age

- "People may have doubts about what they see on the Internet because of its virtual nature, and fail to take action on it."

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Socks, hope and love

Balloons carrying a package of socks and messages of hope and love toward North Korea float toward the country near the Unification Observatory Post in Paju, South Korea, Tuesday.

EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fraud. U.S. soldier accused of defrauding Microsoft co-founder

A U.S. soldier's alleged scheme to defraud one of the world's richest men has landed him in federal custody.

In a criminal complaint unsealed Monday, federal investigators allege Brandon Lee Price changed the address on a bank account held by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, then had a debit card sent to his home so he could use it for payments on a delinquent Armed Forces Bank account and personal expenses.

Price was absent without leave at the time.

Price called Citibank in January and changed the address on an account held by Allen from Seattle to Pittsburgh, then called back three days later to say he'd lost his



Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen
ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

debit card and asked for a new one to be sent to him, an FBI investigator said.

A spokesman for Allen, said the fraud was detected by the bank.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHO leads way for crackdown on tobacco smuggling

For profit. Smuggling cigarettes is becoming very lucrative as governments raise duties on tobacco products

A large chunk of the world is closing in on a treaty to crack down on tobacco smuggling, a practice that is estimated to cost governments up to \$50 billion in tax revenue each year, the World Health Organization said Tuesday.

Diplomats from 174 WHO member states are expected to have a draft treaty by the time they meet in South Korea later this year, the global body said. A handful of countries including the United States, Indonesia, Argentina, Switzerland and 15 others are not participating in the negotiations, meaning the

treaty wouldn't apply there unless they join later.

Negotiators meeting in Geneva on Thursday still need to bridge differences on issues such as duty free and Internet sales, supply chain tracking and extradition of alleged smugglers. If those issues are resolved, a draft will be put to countries meeting in Seoul on Nov. 12-17.


A key part of the treaty is a planned tracking system that will require all cigarette packages to be marked in such a way that customs officials can trace their origin.

WHO's Dr. Haik Nikogosian said this would help law enforcement authorities determine the route by which tobacco products are smuggled, something he said often happens with the consent of cigarette manufacturers.

"Many criminal activities are fueled and organized by the

Market Minute

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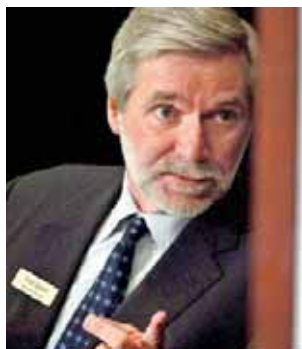
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 **GOLD**
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Natural gas: \$2.21 (-1.8¢) (per 1,000 cubic feet)

Dow Jones: 13,197.73 (-43.9)

industry," he told reporters in Geneva. At least 10 per cent of worldwide cigarette sales are estimated to result from smuggling. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



CANADIAN
PACIFIC

Taking aim at the competitor

CP Rail president and CEO Fred Green speaks in Calgary in this May 12, 2011, file photo. Green took direct aim Tuesday at Hunter Harrison, his erstwhile counterpart at the railroad's biggest rival and the man an activist investor wants to install in his place. **JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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| China | 1 ⁹ ¢/min | Lebanon | 7 ⁹ ¢/min | Sri Lanka | 9 ⁹ ¢/min |
| Colombia | 3 ⁹ ¢/min | Mexico | 1 ⁹ ¢/min | Trinidad | 4 ⁹ ¢/min |
| Cuba | 89 ⁹ ¢/min | Pakistan | 5 ⁹ ¢/min | U.A.E | 14 ⁹ ¢/min |
| El Salvador | 9 ⁹ ¢/min | Philippines | 11 ⁹ ¢/min | Ukraine | 7 ⁹ ¢/min |
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COLORADO KIDS GET EGGED ON



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

This is a story about an Easter egg hunt.

Of course, this is me, so it's a story about an Easter egg hunt gone horribly wrong.

The annual Easter egg hunt in Colorado Springs was called off this year because last year a mob of crazed parents leaped over the rope into an area restricted to kids and gathered up all the eggs before the kids knew what was happening.

When asked to explain his shocking behaviour, one dad explained: "You better believe I'm going to help my kid get one of those eggs. I promise my kid an Easter egg hunt, and I'd want to give him an even edge," he told The Associated Press.

Parents on the hunt

"We've come a long way from the days when my generation was growing up: our parents used to throw us out of the cave in the morning with instructions to go and frolic with the mastodons and the sabre-toothed tigers while they pursued their Mad Men dreams and schemes."

Left groping to explain all those adults gone wild, one expert blames "helicopter parents" and "millennial children." Today's parents, so the theory goes, are so anxious to prevent little Logan or Olivia from experiencing Early Disappointment Syndrome (I made that up) they'll turn an Easter egg hunt into blood sport. If Olivia falls victim to EDS, her self-esteem will suffer and she won't be able to get into the best schools and take her rightful place among the Masters and Mistresses of the Universe.

It's the same at the rink, the soccer pitch, the birthday party, dance class and wherever else helicopter parents hover. My favourite is that millennial kids are now taking their parents to their job interviews so that Mr. and Ms. Helicopter can make sure Olivia gets a fair shake during the interview and the inevitable negotiation that follows.

We've come a long way from the days when my generation was growing up: our parents used to throw us out of the cave in the morning with instructions to go and frolic with the mastodons and the sabre-toothed tigers while they pursued their Mad Men dreams and schemes.

I swear we would play entire seasons of hockey outdoors — and never see a single parent standing on the snow banks, which makes sense, as your face would freeze after a minute's exposure to the wind chill. I used to take big hits in the hope I would get injured and be able to go into the shack and sit next to the heater.

Now kids play in world-class arenas or stadiums, complete with team doctors and publicists. And a squadron of helicopter parents, hovering in formation like killer bees.

Making sure nothing interesting happens to their kids.

But let's see what I can do. Kid? Listen up. There's no such thing as the Easter Bunny anyway.



We know of some unlucky kids who won't be getting an Easter egg hunt this year. GETTY IMAGES

A blast from the past



A copy of the Cleveland Plain Dealer, dated Thursday, March 21, 1912, is held up after the opening of a time capsule buried 100 years ago at GE Lighting's Nela Park world headquarters Monday in Cleveland. TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A bright idea

Five of the century-old light bulbs placed next to a time capsule buried 100 years ago at GE's Lighting's Nela Park world headquarters Monday in Cleveland. Enclosed in the time capsule were also historical lighting-industry brochures and other artifacts.



TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The board

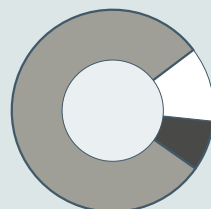
A photo of GE's board of directors in 1912 is held up.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What did you think of the Mad Men season premiere?

80%
I DIDN'T
WATCH



12%
LOVED IT

8%
DIDN'T
LIVE UP TO
THE HYPE



Twitter

@KMacTWN: Halifax is 15C right now. Meanwhile St. John's is -8. Worth the trip across the water.

@HojoMcOjo: Are all comedians from Halifax?

@BROOKEMILLER2: Can't believe we're moving in a few short weeks! HEY HALIFAX come to The Carleton April 17 The last @don-rossmusic & Brooke show as locals...

@willypalov: If Baie-Comeau ends up upsetting Victo, Halifax will almost certainly play Quebec in the next round. How entertaining wo...

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Billy Zane starred opposite Kate Winslet in *Titanic*. CONTRIBUTED

Titanic was a 'game changer'

An interview with Billy Zane. The *Titanic* baddie returns, only this time in 3D

KIERON MONKS
scene@metronews.ca

It's been 15 years since *Titanic* reduced us all to sobbing wrecks, and smashed box-office records.

Now James Cameron's classic is being reissued in eye-popping 3D and we caught up with its sharp-suited villain Cal Hockley, also known as Billy Zane.

How did the original *Titanic* change your life?

It was an incredible calling card. *Titanic* was an invita-

tion to the tables of sovereign leaders for whatever you wanted to leverage, in my case charities. It was a game-changer, and a great honour to be canonized in the pantheon of significant movies.

Having played such a villain — are you worried about a new wave of unpopularity with the 3D release?

Oh, been there, done that. I'm well versed from the first time.

There's actually been a new perspective on Cal. Perhaps revisiting the movie has helped people see him through a different lens and have more sympathy.

You're not experiencing hostility?

Men say I was a terrible shot and women are in two

camp. The ones who were swept up in Leo-mania and can't believe I was in the way of true love, and the slyer ones with an appetite for jewelry who thought Rose was mad to leave Cal.

The most important thing for me was to mine understanding. The burden of the era was placed upon him too; he had a lot to manage. Collectively we were always analyzing, looking for opportunities to disarm the audience.

Does a real man make his own luck?

But of course.

Would you have liked anything about living in 1912?

Life before cellphones! Also the lost art of craftsmanship. I miss things being well made. Architecture and craftsmanship standards in

general have fallen.

How do you and the ocean get along?

I forged my career at sea in *Dead Calm*, where I played a nutter on a boat. I do well at sea, the boats just got bigger. In real life? It makes it very hard to charter one.

What will audiences get out of this reissue?

It depends what audience. Most have seen the film before, so they're going in with comforting expectation.

It's much like seeing an anthem band from the 1980s; waiting for the big hit, fired up nostalgically for when the first chord hits and you're transported to a time and place.

The device of 3D allows the filmmaker to keep the audience off balance — it's

an unpredictable space that allows heartstrings to be manipulated.

After 3D, what other new forms of *Titanic* could be created?

I think a role-play game in real time from the moment of impact or just before is probably something they might consider.

It's easy to forget this is all based on a historic tragedy. How has all this affected you?

More so than before. I saw a segment of the voyage on the (BBC) *One Show* I had never seen before. While watching it I had a very uneasy feeling. For the original, the tragedy hadn't hit me. We were always caught up in the artifice of film. Now it's different, I feel the weight.

2

SCENE

Scene in brief

Is that Harry Potter on your Kindle?

At last, Harry Potter's adventures are available electronically. The seven novels about J.K. Rowling's boy wizard are for sale as ebooks and audio books on the author's Pottermore website, the site's creators announced Tuesday. The books are currently available in English, in U.S. and U.K. editions, priced at \$7.99 for ebooks and \$29.99 for audio versions. The Harry Potter novels have sold 450 million copies, but Rowling for years resisted making the books available in digital form. She announced last year that Potter ebooks would be sold through the Pottermore site, an interactive portal into Harry's magical world.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web



Man pleads guilty in Los Angeles in celebrity hacking case involving Christina Aguilera, Scarlett Johansson

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Simon Cowell

Crazed fan goes after X Factor creator Simon Cowell

Simon Cowell had a close encounter with an obsessed fan when a brick-wielding woman broke into his London home and came face to face with the X Factor boss before getting nabbed by his on-site security, according to the Washington Post.

"It came from the bathroom, so he went in," Max Clifford, Cowell's spokesperson, said in a statement. "She had smashed her way in through the window, and it was unclear how long she had been there or what she was doing."

Clifford adds that Cowell was shaken by the scare.

Getting smashed

"She had smashed her way in through the window, and it was unclear how long she had been there or what she was doing."

Max Clifford, Cowell's spokesperson

"It was a very frightening experience for Simon, who told me it was like something from a horror movie," he says.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Hollywood women love the bad boy



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

In a recent column, I brought up the news that everyone's favourite '90s goth (besides blood-sucking era Angelina Jolie), Marilyn Manson, is dating chanteuse Lana Del Rey. And, perhaps it was shallow of me, but I asked what it was about the creepy rocker that attracted some of Hollywood's most beautiful women (Rose McGowan, Dita Von Teese, Evan Rachel Wood are three of his most famous conquests). Luckily, you wrote in:

"He's creepy outwardly, I'll grant you and beyond

strange. He is also intelligent, well spoken, charming (when he wants to be) and masculine (despite the make-up and freaky gender-bending BDSM clothing)... He's good at making interesting conversation and accomplished at drawing women in."

"The answer is so simple that you missed it completely! Ask yourself how Ric Ocasek got Paulina? The reason you don't get it is that you are not a fan of Marilyn Manson. Your biased view inhibits your clarity."

My biased view? No. I'd like to file this under that weird phenomenon of how once-popular Hollywood men, whose careers are currently on a downward slide still get so many successful, hot girlfriends and George Clooney gets a former WWE wrestler. Ladies, I'd like a word.



Fergie

Fergie wants to add peas to her family pod

After three years of marriage to Josh Duhamel, Fergie is up for having kids — just not now.

"It's not happening yet, I can tell you that definitely," Fergie says, according to Hollyscoop. "But we want to have a family, so that's in the cards, but it's just not this second."

The continued

wait has to do with the fact that, with a lighter Black Eyed Peas schedule, the singer finally has time to spend with her husband.

"Eight years of being on the road, and now I've been off the road, what, five months?" she says.

"I'm enjoying this time of just being home for that long a period."

Twitter



@MileyCyrus

I'm not engaged. I've worn this same ring on this finger since November! People just wanna find something to talk about! It's a topaz people!



@andersoncooper

I just started running again, but don't think I could do a marathon



@KChenoweth

I wish it was my bday today. I need a present.



@ConanOBrien

Got my oil changed downtown just so I could tweet something that sounded dirty.

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There's lots to love about Paris in springtime

French immersion.

As the days get longer and the sun warms the city, now is the time to let your love for France blossom

AURÉLIE
RESCH
travel@metronews.ca

Spring is in the air. Students are out night and day, lovers cuddle on benches in the city's parks, the atmosphere is serene and the pace in Paris is pretty relaxed as days get longer. As I stroll along the shores of La Seine, I can't help thinking of the light spirited Woody Allen movie. Like Gil, the main character of *Midnight in Paris*, I embrace everything I come across in the French capital with delight and gratitude.

The soft light playing on the glass panels of the Louvre pyramids is a painting worth as much as the most notorious exhibited inside. Talking with the booksellers by the Seine in order to find a copy of an ancient manuscript brings me joy.

March is a lazy month with unpredictable mood swings. As it gets warmer during the day, I look for some shade in le Jardin du Luxembourg.

In this great recreational park of the 5th arrondissement (district) of Paris, I take pleasure in looking at children playing with miniature sailboats on the main basin and at the statues scattered in the park picturing romance, love, desire and revenge (I imagine).

A sudden shower pushes me down in the subway heading to the Quai Branly for an escape to the museum of cultures and civilizations. This fas-

cinating place created by former French president Jacques Chirac offers a complete, clever and well displayed collection of craft, arts and history that reflects the richness and variety of the many cultures around the world.

As the night falls, the rain has stopped and the temperature is still good enough to hang out. I walk up the Champs Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe, just because it feels great to stroll along this notorious avenue and I stop at the Fouquet's to enjoy a meal in a very expensive café, looking at ecstatic tourists and young families heading back home. Then I head to Place de l'Odéon to have dinner in one of the numerous restaurants in this tiny passage where artists, students and wealthy people meet and talk through the night. I have a hard decision to make: should I sit at Le Procopée, a Parisian institution, or opt for the friendly atmosphere and the amazing desert of La Jacobine?

As if the excellent meal was not enough to please my palate, I walk up on Saint Germain to stop at the chocolate boutique of famous maître-chocolatier Larnicol. I indulge in delicacies in this chocolate palace. It's now time to burn it off with some jazz. The Quartier Latin is a vibrant place where life is bustling and the night is always young. There are plenty of clubs to listen to music in and many opportunities to mingle with a happy crowd.

The city offers it all: elegant architecture, fancy stores and interesting urban sketches... Yes, indeed, the Parisian cliché is a delightful experience!

Maybe love will strike at the corner of a café or on the sidewalk of Notre Dame and just like for Gil, a young charismatic stranger will turn my Parisian experience into a romance.



People enjoy the spring weather outside the Louvre. ZOETNET/Flickr



Maybe love will strike you at the Arc de Triomphe or on the sidewalk of Notre Dame this spring. Flickr



3 LIFE

Stamp

Queen puts stamp on exhibit

Regular mail — the kind with a stamp on it — isn't the everyday fact of life it used to be. And that means we might not get to see the Queen as often as Canadians did in the past. The Canadian Postal Museum in Gatineau, Que., is marking Elizabeth's diamond jubilee with an exhibition of over 600 stamps issued since 1952 that bear her likeness. "This collection of postal portraits provides an excellent historical account of one of many examples of the Queen's presence in the everyday lives of Canadians," Heritage Minister James Moore said in a release.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the Web



Beagle at Kennedy Airport sniffs out contraband food hidden in international luggage

Who doesn't
love
a chocoholiday.



EASTER BUNNY LAND March 26 - April 7

Visit the Easter Bunny and get your photo taken. All proceeds go to Easter Seals Nova Scotia in support of Nova Scotians with physical disabilities.

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Turkey with Soba. Try this tasty nutritional powerhouse for lunch



Ingredients

- 250 g (8 oz) soba noodles
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) vegetable oil
- 1 pkg (350 g) extra firm tofu, patted dry and cut into cubes
- 250 g (1/2 lb) boneless, skinless turkey breast, thinly sliced
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- 1 head broccoli, cut into florets
- 1 head bok choy, sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) crushed red pepper flakes
- 250 ml (1 cup) turkey or chicken broth
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) smooth peanut butter
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) rice vinegar
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) soy sauce
- Fresh peanuts, for garnish

1. In pot of boiling water, cook noodles for about 5 minutes; drain well.

2. In large non-stick skillet heat oil over medium-high heat. Brown tofu and transfer to a plate. Add turkey to skillet and cook for about 2 minutes per side. Transfer to plate. Add red pepper, broccoli, bok choy, garlic, red pepper flakes and broth to skillet. Cover and cook for about 3 minutes.

3. Whisk together peanut butter, rice vinegar and soy sauce. Add turkey, tofu and noodles to vegetables. Stir in peanut butter mixture and cook, stirring until noodles are well coated.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Andrew Johnson has the job you wanted when you were six years old



Evidently, confidence in your ability will help you stand out from some tough competition. ISTOCK

LEGO legend. For this young man, the building blocks to success have been bright, shiny and stackable

MONICA WEYMOUTH
Metro World News in Philadelphia

As the new Master Model Builder of LEGOLAND Discovery Center Chicago, 23-year-old Andrew Johnson designs 3D LEGO models for the families that visit.

Last week, he completed

his first display since starting full-time at the beginning of the month.

"I just made a cardinal — that's the state bird of Illinois," he tells us. "It's a lot of fun to be able to design something and watch it come into creation so fast."

Plenty of aspects of the job could be described as "a lot of fun," which is why the position isn't easy to come by.

There are only four master model builders in the U.S. and an additional eight abroad. Johnson landed the gig after competing against eight other finalist applicants in a "build-off," during which he created a rep-

lica of Chicago's Daley Plaza Picasso sculpture, a model of the Lorax using less than 40 LEGO pieces and an especially tricky audience-member request: a violin and a hands-free harmonica.

For now, Johnson — who is one credit shy of a degree in history from DePaul University — isn't concerned with big-picture career questions or especially eager to join his friends in the cubicles.

"It's one of the only toys I can think of that you don't grow out of," Johnson says of LEGOs. "I'm going to stay here as long as I'm having fun — which I can see being a long time."

Piece by piece

His style

Johnson has been playing with LEGOs since he was a child, but sharpened his skills while working at a camp where the toys were used to teach architecture and engineering. "There are people who have a lot of kits, but I'm more of a free-builder — I haven't used instructions in a long time," he says. "I don't buy kits, just the basic building blocks. It's a lot of trial and error."



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4

SPORTS

Final Four

NCAA
coaches
cashing in

Ohio State coach Thad Matta has already cashed in on the Buckeyes' trip to the Final Four. So have the rest of the coaches whose teams are headed to New Orleans.

Matta has racked up \$100,000 US in incentives tied to his team's performance in the Big Ten and NCAA tournament this season. And that doesn't include the one-year extension that was triggered when the Buckeyes beat Michigan State for a share of the conference regular-season title.

Kansas coach Bill Self, whose team plays Ohio State on Saturday night, and John Calipari of Kentucky and Rick Pitino of Louisville are already racking up similar bonus packages, according to a review of their contracts by The Associated Press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

For a photo gallery from Tuesday night's game at Moncton Coliseum, visit metronews.ca/halifax



Mooseheads forward Nathan MacKinnon scores the game-tying goal on Moncton Wildcats stopper Roman Will in the third period of Tuesday night's QMJHL playoff game at Moncton Coliseum. Brent Andrews later scored the overtime winner as the Mooseheads topped the Wildcats 5-4 and moved on to the second round of the playoffs. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

OT winner completes sweep of Wildcats

Flare for the dramatic.

MacKinnon scores highlight-reel game-tying goal, Andrews scores OT winner as Mooseheads win first QMJHL playoff series in four years



MATTHEW WUEST

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The sound of jubilant Halifax Mooseheads fans could still be heard echoing through Moncton Coliseum a half-hour after Brent Andrews broke the home team's hearts.

The Mooseheads, in front of a small but boisterous contingent of travelling fans, completed a four-game sweep of the Moncton Wildcats in the QMJHL first round on Tuesday night when Andrews lifted his team to a 5-4 victory at 4:06 of overtime.

The 19-year-old forward made no mistake tapping the puck into an open net after he stormed down the middle on a rush and took

a perfect centring pass from captain Cameron Crichtlow.

"That's definitely my biggest goal ever," Andrews said after a raucous celebration in the Mooseheads dressing room.

"It was really special and I'm going to cherish this forever."

After lopsided wins of four, three and six goals, the series-clinching victory showcased the Mooseheads' flair for the dramatic.

Falling behind 3-0 in the first period and 4-2 going into the third, the Mooseheads fired blanks on nine of 10 power plays. The Wildcats — playing their best game of the series — looked poised to force a Game 5 on Friday in Halifax.

But Czech winger Martin Frk scored on a bullet from between the circles at 3:06 of the third to cut Moncton's lead to 4-3, setting the stage for rookie Nathan MacKinnon to score perhaps the biggest and nicest goal of his QMJHL career.

The 16-year-old showcased his game-breaking speed when he blew by the Wildcats on a coast-to-coast rush, going wide on two

Short and sweet

- The Halifax Mooseheads' four-game first-round sweep of the Moncton Wildcats took just five days to complete.

- After starting last Friday at the Metro Centre, the Mooseheads made quick work of their opponents.

- "I remember talking to my mom before I left for the rink Friday and I said,

'Mom, hopefully this series is over by Tuesday,'" said rookie centre Nathan MacKinnon.

- "We both kind of looked at each other and said, 'That's kind of hard to believe that it can only be a four- or five-day series.' We're not surprised (it's over), but we're definitely very happy about the outcome."

defenders before deking to his backhand and tying the game at 10:22.

"It was a hell of a play and he came in and showed all the skill he has, right down to the bone, and he (did) what he does," Andrews said.

Even some Wildcats fans among the 3,774 were shaking their head in amazement — perhaps in recognition there was little their team could have done to stop him.

"I was going to split the D to be honest," MacKinnon said. "I saw them both kind

of go to each other. I thought I'd go outside, I didn't think I'd have enough room to get over to the far post, so I went backhand. It worked out well."

It's the franchise's first playoff series victory in four years and leaves the Mooseheads hungry for the next round.

"To get a (single) win in the playoffs is a big step for a lot of the guys, but to win a series is definitely something special," Andrews said. "I don't think we want to stop here. We like this feeling too much right now."

Baie-Comeau Drakkar

Playoff positioning

There's an upset brewing in the QMJHL first round and it has a huge impact on the Halifax Mooseheads.

The 13th-seeded Baie-Comeau Drakkar thumped the fourth-seeded Victoria Tigres 8-2 on Tuesday night and have a 3-0 stranglehold in the best-of-seven series.

Should the Drakkar hang on to upset the Tigres, and should all the other higher seeds advance, the Mooseheads would face the Quebec Remparts in the second round instead of the Blainville-Boisbriand Armada.

Former Mooseheads forward Carl Gelinas is one of Baie-Comeau's top players, with two goals and three assists in three games.

The Mooseheads are the only team that has qualified for the second round.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

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Davis hopes to put final trimmings on great season

Final Four. Kentucky star and top NBA draft prospect reflects on whirlwind year

Anthony Davis walked back into Kentucky's hotel in Atlanta at the South Regional when a young girl approached.

"She got on her knees and bowed down to me like I was a king and said, 'Bow to the Brow.' She was like five or six," Davis said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I just started laughing. Man, fans of all ages, Kentucky is crazy and I just love it."

Davis and his unibrow are a perfect fit.

He's a fun-loving teenager who has swatted away and dunked enough basketballs to become the most dominating player in the college ranks.

His steady play and calm demeanour amid the crazy fanbase makes it easy to forget he's a normal teenager. He's turned 19 on March 11. He's the anchor of the Wildcats' defence and a ferocious shot-blocker, leading the



Anthony Davis of Kentucky cuts down the net after beating Baylor on Sunday. STREETER LECKA/GETTY IMAGES FILE

NCAA with 175 rejections.

But off the court, Davis said he's a normal teenager.

"I'm a very cool guy, very laid back. I like to play video games," Davis said. "I like playing pranks on people. It's fun,

livening up their spirits a little bit.

The Wildcats (36-2) play in-state rival Louisville (30-9) Saturday in the Final Four for a berth in the national title game. Davis will play his usual

role, saying he's fine after banging his left knee in the South Regional final against Baylor.

Along the way to New Orleans, Davis has won nearly every major award and was named to AP's All-America team this week. It's pretty heady stuff for a kid who was just six-foot-two in high school as a sophomore and trying to figure out a complicated path to the NBA.

Then, an eight-inch growth spurt turned him into the nation's most in-demand high school prospect.

"I'm not even sure how it happened. But I'm glad it happened," Davis said.

With several potential first-round NBA draft picks on the Kentucky roster, Davis realizes that New Orleans will likely be the last time this group takes the floor together.

"I remember it like it was yesterday, like, 'I can't wait for this first game. I'm going to be nervous, first chance putting on a Kentucky uniform,'" Davis said. "It was great, but now it's about to be over."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB. Mariners, A's tour Japanese disaster zone



Young Japanese baseball players play with Stomper, the Oakland Athletics mascot, during a baseball clinic by major leaguers of the Athletics and the Seattle Mariners at Ishinomaki Municipal Baseball Stadium in tsunami-hit Ishinomaki on Tuesday. KOJI SASAHARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Members of the Oakland Athletics and Seattle Mariners got a firsthand look at the devastation from the earthquake and tsunami on Tuesday when they visited one of the towns hit hardest by last year's disaster in Japan.

Eight players and coaches from the Mariners and Athletics went to Ishinomaki on the northeast coast and later put on a baseball clinic for students affected by the catastrophe.

More than 19,000 people in Japan were killed by the disaster on March 11, 2011. About 46 per cent of Ishinomaki, a city of 150,000, was inundated by up to 32 feet of water.

Major League Baseball made a donation of \$500,000 US to the city to help in reconstruction efforts. The teams are in Japan to open MLB's 2012 season with games on Wednesday and Thursday at Tokyo Dome.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Shoulder surgery ends Hall's season

Edmonton Oilers forward Taylor Hall is done for the season.

The team said Tuesday the 20-year-old will undergo surgery on his left shoulder.

Hall hasn't played since March 17 after suffering a concussion early in a 3-1 win over the Calgary Flames.

Oilers general manager Steve Tambellini says Hall will spend five to six months recovering.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Leafs' hopes end with a whimper

The precipitous fall of the Toronto Maple Leafs is complete.

A 3-0 loss to the Carolina Hurricanes on Tuesday night officially eliminated the Leafs from playoff contention in the Eastern Conference, extending the franchise-worst streak to seven seasons.

Hours after new coach Randy Carlyle called the team's play in Toronto "unacceptable," the Leafs fell behind 3-0 early in the second period and lost their 10th-straight game in front of the disgruntled home fans. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL. Surging Bruins build breathing room in division



Bruins Tyler Seguin, left, and Brad Marchand, from Hammond Plains, celebrate Marchand's third-period goal on Tuesday night. ELISE AMENDOLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Benoit Pouliot scored the tie-breaking goal midway through the third period, Zdeno Chara had three assists and the surging Boston Bruins beat the Tampa Bay Lightning 5-2 on Tuesday night.

The Bruins won their third straight game despite two goals by Steven Stamkos, who leads the NHL with 55. Tampa Bay's three-game winning streak ended.

Chara set up three Bruins goals after being honoured in a pre-game ceremony for reaching the 1,000-game mark in his career. He did that on Saturday night in a 4-2 in Los Angeles.

The Bruins, 5-1 after losing four straight, moved five points ahead of the second-place Ottawa Senators in the Northeast Division with 93 points and a game in hand.

Tuesday's game

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| 5 | 2 |
| Bruins | Lightning |

Pouliot broke a 2-2 tie with his 14th goal of the season at 11:34 of the third period even though teammate Chris Kelly was in the crease. The officials consulted and allowed the goal.

Kelly had been pushed into the crease by a Tampa Bay player while goalie Dwayne Roloson was outside the crease to the right. With Kelly in his way, Roloson couldn't get back to cover the other side of the net where Pouliot put his shot.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Caddy enters a new weight class



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Lightweight

Where the ATS excels is its reasonable 1,545-kilogram curb weight. That's about 225 less than the CTS sedan (currently the only passenger car in the Cadillac garage). That's also less than most of the competition — which should help when the official fuel-consumption numbers are announced closer to launch time.

Safety first

The ATS is looking to match its competitors, stride for stride, in safety with up to 10 airbags plus an array of the latest in collision-avoidance gear. This includes adaptive cruise control (maintains a safe distance from the vehicle in front) and lane-departure warning with blind-zone alert.

2013 Cadillac ATS

- **Type:** Four-door, rear-/all-wheel-drive compact sedan.
- **Engines (hp):** 2.5-litre DOHC I4 (200); 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (270); 3.6-litre DOHC V6 (318).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 8.5/5.5 (2.5, est.).
- **Base Price:** \$36,000.

Engine



The 270-horsepower turbo four-cylinder is found in other more mainstream GM brands.

Although the ATS will be available with a relatively potent 318-horsepower 3.6-litre V6, Cadillac is making available two different four-cylinder offerings. Base cars get a 200-horsepower 2.5-litre four-cylinder, while a 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder is optional.

Review. With boutique brands downsizing, there are hot deals on hot new cars for regular folks. This is one of them.

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Scaling back power, size and fuel consumption without scaling back the amenities is all the rage these days.

You could say that's the new Cadillac ATS's sole purpose in life.

But would you go as far as picking an ATS over a BMW 3-Series sedan?

Or, for that matter, an Audi A4, Mercedes-Benz C-Class, Infiniti G37 or a Lexus

IS? Along with their generally compact size, efficient and still-potent powerplants and luxury accommodations, all of them also offer all-wheel-drive.

Well, that's what you can expect from the ATS, which arrives this summer.

Although clearly Cadillac-looking, the stylists have done a good job scaling down the brand's visual

identity.

The result conveys plenty of elegance from every angle, especially around the grille and lower air intakes at one end and the abbreviated trunk lid and vertical taillight bars at other.

The overall shape doesn't dazzle and it's far from ground-breaking, but it is quite appealing.

No prices have been an-

nounced, but to maintain a certain spread below the \$39,000 CTS and remain competitive with its classmates, you can expect the ATS to start in the \$36,000 range.

That should earn it the once-over and a double take from shoppers — luxury or not — looking to trade down in size without giving up all the comfort.

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Natural gas to liquid is fuel for thought

Autopilot



AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

We've heard a lot lately about electricity's potential as an

alternative fuel, but natural gas keeps hanging around the fuel discussion, like a bad gas.

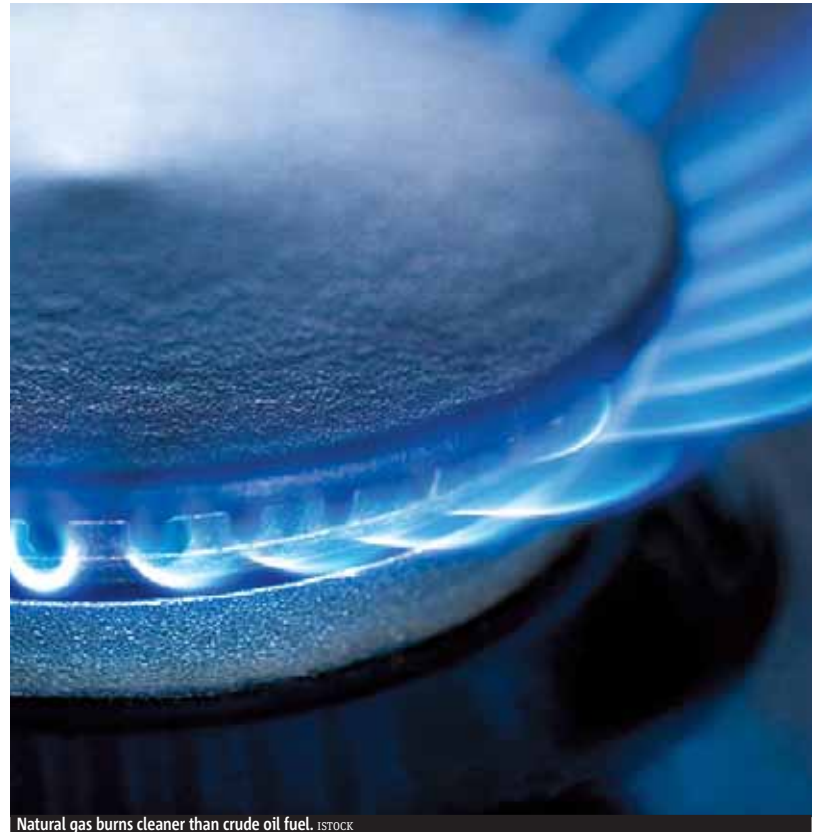
But it's a good gas. North America has lots. It burns cleaner than crude oil fuel. It's relatively cheap.

But there's always a catch, isn't there?

The catch with natural gas is that it doesn't transport or store very well. People tend to build just enough pipes and

storage tanks for their needs, be it home heating or municipal car and truck fleets. Any uptick in demand and use would require a commensurate increase in expensive infrastructure.

And because you can't store a lot of it, the price of natural gas is more susceptible to drops in demand. When demand drops, prices fall easily, a phenomenon



Natural gas burns cleaner than crude oil fuel. ISTOCK

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that doesn't bode well for increased production and infrastructure development.

So I was struck recently by a news report stating that the biggest, baddest gasoline producer on the planet, Royal Dutch Shell, is seriously increasing its bet on natural gas.

Not only that, but this year will see it produce — for the first time — more natural gas than crude, on an oil equivalent basis. Shell also expects natural gas to continue to grow as a proportion of its production in the coming years.

Among the areas Shell intends to investigate is liquefy-

ing the gas so it compacts significantly and consequently ships easier, for possible overseas export, and more natural gas made into synthetic diesel fuel. Shell already has a big gas-to-liquids operation in Qatar.

I asked energy expert Gail Tverberg of The Oil Drum forum, Our Infinite World blog, if gas-to-liquid leans more toward science fiction than mainstream. She noted the technology is well developed, but it's expensive. Natural gas has to be significantly cooled to get into a liquid state, cooled all along its transport route, and then it needs to go back to its gas-

eous state before being delivered to the end user.

Converting it directly into a permanent liquid fuel, like synthetic diesel, requires very expensive processing that has so far limited its use as a transportation fuel.

"It's like any energy resource," notes Tverberg. "You take the best resource first, which tends to be cheaper. Then you go to the resources that are harder to extract or more difficult to obtain. That's what we're doing now. Natural gas is more difficult ..."

Difficult and alternative, just like a teenager. Surely at some point it has to grow up.

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Ion had coupe looks with sedan utility

Second Gear.
2003 to 2007
Saturn Ion

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Ion was produced from 2003 to 2007 in either coupe or sedan body styles, replacing the "S" series in Saturn's lineup.

The coupe offered easy backseat access for people or pets by way of a useful set of "suicide" doors. Tucked in behind the front doors, these smaller openings allowed easier access to the rear seats while maintaining the looks of a coupe.




TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Common Issues


Listen for any unusual or sporadic rattling sounds from under the hood, which could be caused by loose exhaust manifold bolts. This isn't a huge issue if diagnosed properly.

Check for proper and quiet operation from the climate-control fan and temperature controls. A ticking noise when the fan is working could be caused by a loose or broken cover. Ensure the power sunroof is working, along with the turn signals. Note that a lumpy or awkward idle could be caused by a malfunction in the engine computer, which would require reprogramming to fix. Finally, avoid the CVT transmission — which was axed from the powertrain lineup due to reliability issues.

Engine

 Four-cylinder ECOTEC engines were fitted to all models, including a 2.4-litre unit with 170 horsepower. Look for automatic, manual or continually variable transmissions. Avoid the latter.

What Owners Like

 Coupe looks combined with sedan utility are among the strong points stated by Ion Coupe owners. Selection, fresh styling and overall value were also rated highly, as was ride comfort.

What Owners Dislike

 Complaints typically include a "cheap" feel to the cabin trim and limited rear-seat space for larger adults.

Verdict

Avoid a used Ion model with the CVT transmission, and you'll likely enjoy a unique, cheap-to-run compact car with affordable pricing and a good sense of style.

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Tesla's model 'S'itizen

Autoknow. Electric cars are on the fringe for some automakers, while Tesla's very existence depends on them. Maybe that's why this sleek new hatchback with a 480-kilometre range seems so natural.

MALCOLM GUNN

Wheelbase Media

Whether we wanted it, the age of the electric car is upon us and their numbers are slowly growing. While most of the better-known brands are being built by mainstream automakers such as General Motors, Ford, Nissan and Mitsubishi, perhaps the best out-of-the-box thinking is coming from boutique automakers.

In this group is Tesla Motors, a Palo Alto, Calif., company founded by Elon Musk, creator of online money-transfer system PayPal.

Tesla (named for electrical development pioneer Nikola Tesla) has, since 2006, sold more than 2,100 of its \$125,000-plus two-seater Roadster model. But, as a company spokesman explained at the North American International Auto Show in January, the Lotus Elise-based sports car's true importance was as a test bed for Tesla's electric powertrain technology. The next phase in the brand's development is the Model S four-door sedan, which will launch this summer. The car is

By the numbers

\$105,400

Model S pricing in the United States before government rebates runs from \$57,400 to \$105,400, but there's no word yet on what Canadians will pay.

being constructed at a plant in Fremont, Calif., that had been jointly operated by General Motors and Toyota.

Like all Tesla vehicles, the Model S operates on electric power only. It does not use a gasoline engine to generate electrical energy, as is the case with the Chevrolet Volt, which lacks the Model S's electric range. It's a highly unique vehicle on several fronts.

The aluminum-bodied, full-size four-door hatchback is roughly the same size as BMW's 5-series hatchback. However, the Model S design has more luggage space with the 60:40 back seat up or folded, not including an additional storage area under the hood.

Under the hood? Well, the 306-horsepower electric motor is actually positioned between the rear wheels, while the liquid-cooled lithium-ion battery layout unobtrusively forms part of a rigid platform that connects to the front and rear suspension.

Inside, the Model S can seat five adults plus two pint-sized, rear-facing passengers in the optional fold-up third row, not unlike those old station wagons of the 1950s and '60s.

Tesla claims the 40 kilowatt/hour (kWh) batteries in the base model are good for up to about 255 kilometres on a full



The Model S is designed by Franz von Holzhausen, who also designed the Saturn Sky and Pontiac Solstice roadsters. PHOTOS FROM WHEELBASE MEDIA

charge. The range increases to about 365 kilometres if the 60 kWh powerpack is specified, while 480 kilometres is attainable with the 85-kWh option.

Performance is also affected, depending on the battery pack selected. Zero-to-60-m.p.h. (96 km/h) times vary from 6.5 seconds for the 40 kWh cars, to 5.6 seconds for the 85 kWh batteries (dropping to 4.4 seconds when the Performance version is specified).

Top speed runs 175-200 km/h, again depending on battery capacity, but driving the

Model S with a heavy foot will certainly curtail its advertised range. The Model S lacks a conventional transmission, but instead uses a controller to initiate forward and reverse.

As with other electrics, charging the Model S can be accomplished by plugging into a standard 120-volt wall outlet from a port hidden behind the driver's-side taillight. Tesla says that each hour of charging gives the car about 50 kilometres of range, but that doubles when the optional 240-volt high-power wall connector is used.

At that rate, a full charge for the 85 kWh model should be all wrapped up in about five hours.

Buy a fully-decked-out 85 kWh Model S and Tesla says you'll be able to access its new network of "Superchargers throughout North America" to give you about 255 kilometres of range in 30 minutes of charging.

The equipment list for the base cars is near-luxury and includes a cloth interior, seven-speaker 200-watt audio system and 19-inch wheels. Leather is optional as is a panoramic glass

roof, carbon-fibre trim, power liftgate and 21-inch wheels.

The Model S represents Tesla's first in-house-designed vehicle and will be followed in 2014 by the Model X. That taller, roomier version of the Model S will feature dual-motor all-wheel-drive and four gull-wing-style doors, called Falcon Wings.

Unusual and unique, of course, but Tesla's clean-sheet approach to emissions-free automobile design is what separates it from just about everything else on the market.

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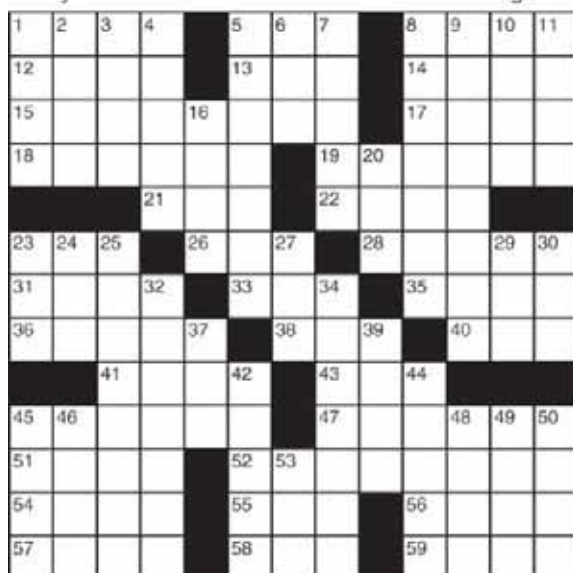
Crossword

Across

1 Comic strip
penguin
5 Witness
8 Slightly
12 Kate's role in
"Titanic"
13 Luau bowlful
14 Bro
15 Very active
17 Capri, e.g.
18 Overexert
19 It's handy if you
have to break your
word
21 — -la-la
22 Roger Rabbit,
e.g.
23 "Great!"
26 Performance
28 Exhaust
31 Egg
33 Kangaroo's
move
35 Betty's "Hot in
Cleveland" role
36 Frankincense or
myrrh
38 Third degree?
40 Moon craft
41 Stepped (on)
43 Thing, in law
45 Meager
47 Aviatrix Earhart
51 Jason's ship
52 Profession
54 Quartet
55 Salt Lake
athlete
56 Garfield's pal
57 Salamanders
58 Petrol
59 -tat-tat

Down

1 Spheres
2 Sulk
3 Cold War nation
(Abbr.)
4 Attack
5 Popeye's "fuel"
6 A billion years
7 Twice 54-Across
8 Fat
9 "Sex and the
City" writer Can-
dace
10 Not working
11 Adolescent
16 Old Italian
money
20 Thee
23 Supporting
24 Rd.
25 Laugh so hard
it hurts
27 Upper surface
29 Guitar's cousin
30 Nonstick spray
32 Kaleidoscope
components
34 Groups of
words
37 Ph. bk. info
39 Ms. Moore



42 Clean, as soft-
ware
44 Man of La
Mancha
45 Protected
46 College
teacher, often
48 Mother of Cas-
tor and Pollux
49 "— an earth-
quake, or ..."
50 Cruising

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Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



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row, every column and
every 3x3 box contains the
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Yesterday's answer



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• **Guy From The University.**
Hey! i dont even know if
you read this newspaper
but its worth a try! have
had a crush on you for a
while now! really wanna
talk to you but nerves
always get the best of me
:(I dont know anything
about you but would love
to hang out and know
more :) <3 <3 From Girl
From The Univeristy

• **boo bity booboo.** I do love
you i do, like seriously
how hard is it to just send
me an inbox message say-
ing it was me, end of story,
end of fighting, we dont
even have to talk, i just
want to KNOW this is you.
I wont even add you i just
need some closer. you shy,
well i was too and what
i sent you was for more
embarrassing than what im
asking you to do!!! Then
you justmade me feel even
more crazy!!! So please.
From Denny

• **Mea.** mea culpa... pls
forgive me. i do care,
tho i m 2shy to show it.
my heart was locked in a
blackbox till you cared, u
may hold the key to our
happiness so pls help me
unlock it. mountains of
regret i've carried on with
a shrug, but i won't let this
precious love shatter. From
sad

Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21 - April 20.

If someone attacks your reputation
today you must defend yourself.

♉ Taurus | April 21 - May 21.

You can't seem to make up your
mind of what you should be doing
with your precious time.

♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20.

You must think positive today, espe-
cially when dealing with situations
where negative words could so easily
lead to negative consequences.

♋ Cancer | June 21 - July 22.

What you most need is close at
hand but you can't seem to see it.

♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22.

Think seriously about your money
situation today. The answers to your
problems are not really that difficult.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22.

Go your own way and do your own
thing today.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22.

You need to trust your instincts today,
even when — especially when — they
tell you things you don't want to
hear.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21.

Focus only on things that are rel-
evant to your long-term success.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 -

Dec. 21. You may have to make a
tactical retreat today, most likely
because you find yourself up against
someone who is too big or to
powerful for you to compete with
one-to-one.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan

20. Your mind may be working fast
but can you trust what it tells you?
That might sound like a strange
question but while mind planet
Mercury is moving retrograde it's
something you need to keep asking
— often.

♊ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18.

Cash flow problems may be causing
some concern but don't let your
worries get out of control.

♋ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March

20. If you get the chance to take
advantage of an opportunity that
someone else has missed you must
not hesitate, not even for a moment.
They had their chance and blew it,
now it's your turn to benefit. Cash in!

SALLY BROMPTON

Today

1°/-5°
Variable

Thursday

4°/-3°
Variable

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Linda

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